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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Mesing et al.

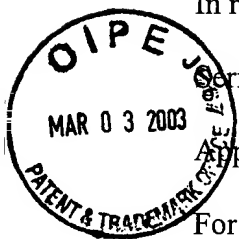
Serial No. 09/613,162

Group Art Unit: 1733

Application Filed: July 10, 2000

Examiner: Musser, Barbara J.

For: POLYIMIDE RESIN AND CARBON FIBER MOLDED TUBE CLAMP



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20531

03/12/2003 VDAY 11 00000001-301059-09613162

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Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

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11. (Amended) A process for forming a tube clamp comprising the steps of:
layering a plurality of sheets of fibers to form a fiber bundle of a preselected thickness
along a contour of layup tooling having a predetermined shape; injecting polymer into the
tooling to impregnate the fiber bundle; curing the impregnated fiber bundle to at least
near net shape; then removing said cured material from said layup tooling while retaining
the shape of said layup tooling without exposing fibers.

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claims 13-30, directed to a tube clamp, are withdrawn from consideration. By this amendment, claims 13-30 are cancelled without prejudice. Claim 11 has been amended to include the steps in resin transfer molding. Claims 1-12, drawn to a method of making a tube clamp remain pending in the application.